

REMARKS

Applicant requests favorable consideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-42 are presented for consideration. Claims 1, 13, 14, 25-29, 41 and 42 are independent. Claims 29-42 have been added to recite additional features of the subject invention. Support for these claims can be found in the original application, as filed. Therefore, no new matter has been added.

Claims 1-28 were previously allowed in this application. In addition to these claims being allowable, Applicant submits that claims 29-42 patentably define features of the measuring system, the projection exposure apparatus, and the method of measuring performance of an imaging optical system of the present invention. Applicant further submits, therefore, that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and an early passage to issue are requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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